

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed 26th July 2005. Claims 1-22 were pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended. Therefore, claims 1 to 22 are now pending in the application and are submitted for reconsideration.

Rejection of Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 21:

Claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,386,141 issued to Forsen.

In response to these rejections and as agreed with the Examiner by telephone, claim 1 has been amended to clearly specify that the first actuator is for moving the first robot arm construction portion.

According to the interpretation of Forsen, as applied by the Examiner in the communication of original 26th July 2005, a robot arm has a first robot arm construction portion 3 and a second robot arm construction portion 4. The Examiner refers to a first actuator 8c having a first point of application on the first robot arm construction portion and having a second point of application located below the first generally horizontal axis. In the case of Forsen however, the actuator 8c connects the second robot arm construction portion to the hinged joint with the first robot arm construction portion. This actuator cannot therefore cause movement of the first robot arm construction portion since its only point of contact lies in the axis joining the two arms.

According to the present wording of the claim, by specifically requiring the first actuator to cause movement of the first robot arm construction portion, the claim now explicitly describes the sort of "push-up" actuator according to the disclosure of the present invention. In this respect it is to be noted that the operation of the first actuator on the first robot arm construction portion of the instant invention is quite distinct from the arrangement of Forsen, which operates in a pull-up configuration.

Applicant submits that the present amendment does not raise further issues since it is merely a clarification of the original claim and since no other configuration had been put forward.

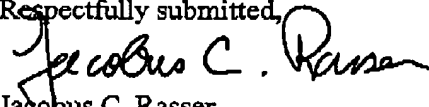
Since claims 2, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 21 depend from claim 1, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejections and allowance of claims 1, 2, 8, 9, 14, 16, 17, 19 and 21.

On reviewing documents cited against the documents cited in the present case, Applicant has recently become aware of further art that may be considered pertinent to the present case. Out of an abundance of caution, Applicant is submitting herewith an additional Information Disclosure Statement including such documents, and respectfully requests the Examiner to consider these documents and indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application is hereby requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 08-3038, referencing the docket number shown above.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned by telephone at the number given below in order to resolve any questions.

Respectfully submitted,


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